How An Inspector Would Look At It…

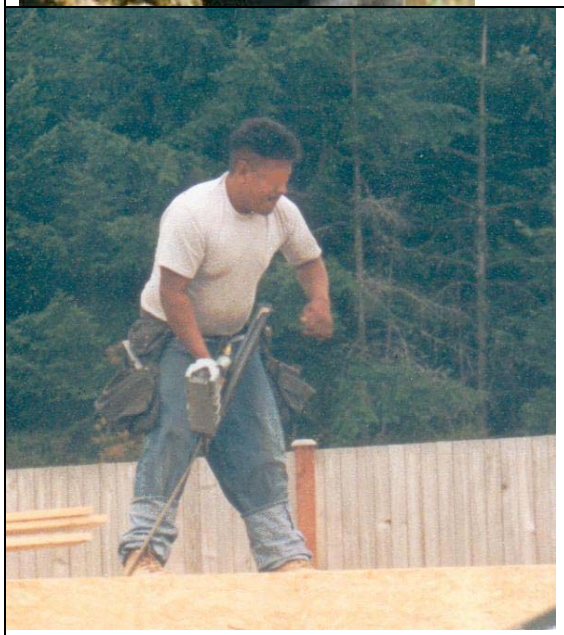
How it looks	Hazards?
"Poor Housekeeping"	
	**Probability** – Low to medium high ▪ If the door under the overhang is the only entrance/exit for the building, workers will have to walk through the pile of scraps for several steps. The chances are fairly high that some will trip/fall ▪ If they carry large, bulks items, the chance for misstep is higher yet. ▪ And in wet weather, the chance for slipping increases even more. **Severity** – Medium high ▪ Slips, trips and "falls from same level" are one of the major causes of time-loss claims for broken wrists, dislocated shoulders or elbow injuries.
	**Probability** – Medium to medium high ▪ As this appears to be the only walkway, the probability increases that someone will stumble on the building materials. ▪ In addition to building materials, there are power cords and air lines. ▪ There are guardrails installed, but they don't appear to be well-built, nor to offer much protection. **Severity** – High ▪ In addition to the injuries listed in the previous block, the guardrails indicate that there is a fall of eight feet or more which commonly results in injuries ranging from a minor sprain to major fractures or a head injury.

Probability – Medium to high

- Chain saws throw off a lot of chips while cutting wood, and we've all seen how the operator is generally covered with those chips after a cut. Unprotected eyes are susceptible to being hit with some of those chips.

Severity – Medium

The chips have sharp edges and can easily cause scratches on the eye.

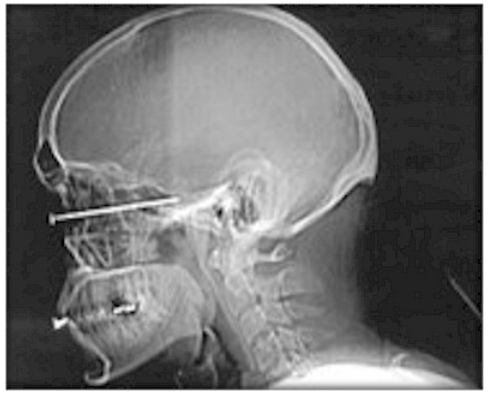


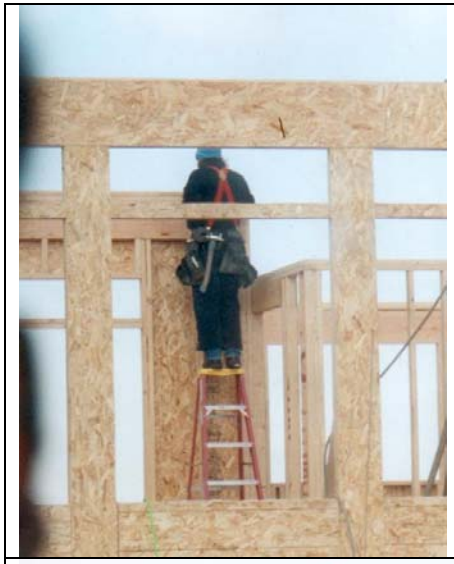
Probability – Medium

- Injuries to unprotected eyes from the use of nail guns are happening at an increasingly larger rate every year.

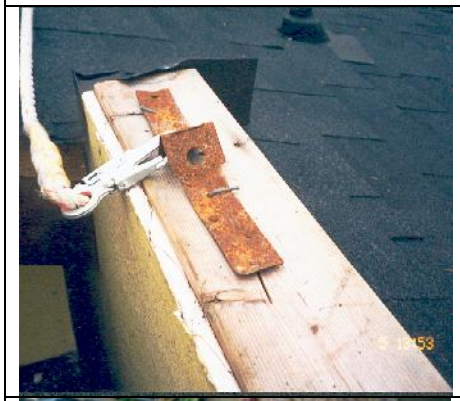
Severity – Extreme

- If the person's eye gets hit with a piece of the plastic sleeve that holds the nails together in the clip, it can reasonably be expected to scratch the eyeball.
- A ricocheted nail will not only take out an eyeball, it often ends up in the person's brain.



	**<u>Probability</u>** – Medium high ▪ Standing on or near the top of a step ladder shifts the ladder's center of gravity to where it becomes very unstable. Without leaning very far in any direction, the worker can cause it to tip over. **<u>Severity</u>** - High ▪ A fall from six feet frequently causes injuries requiring hospitalization and time-loss of up to three months.
	**<u>Probability</u>** – High ▪ This is the wrong type of ladder for accessing an upper level or elevation. ▪ The ladder isn't supported by its feet, but is balanced on the top of the wall. ▪ Adding to the instability is the fact that the worker is high enough to shift the center of gravity without much movement. ▪ There is no "grab point" on the roof to stabilize the worker. If he were to start to fall, he has no way to stop himself. **<u>Severity</u>** – Extreme ▪ The door or window frame in the lower right-hand corner confirms that this is at least a two-story building. Therefore the falling distance could be at least 16'

	**<u>Probability</u>** – Medium high ▪ Experience says that people who are concentrating on a task can lose track of their surroundings. Stepping backward off the unguarded surface happens quite often. **<u>Severity</u>** – High ▪ Injuries from a fall of 8' would range from a minor sprain to major fractures or a head injury ▪ If the surface they fell on was a concrete driveway, the injuries would be expected to be more serious than if they fell onto loose dirt. If there were loose building scraps below this surface, they could make injuries even more severe.
	**<u>Probability</u>** – Medium high ▪ The scaffold is leaning, not "plumb and level." ▪ The working surface is only partially decked. ▪ There is no guardrail system installed (yes, he's wearing some kind of harness, but it's not hooked up to anything) ▪ There is no access provided, other than to have the person climb the frame. ▪ "Least base dimension" is less than 3X the height. Scaffold should be tied to house, guyed or braced ▪ The person at the base of the scaffold isn't wearing a hard hat, <u>and</u> ▪ There is no toe board on the scaffold platform to keep tools/materials from falling **<u>Severity</u>** – Extreme ▪ A fall from that height (approximately 18') would usually result in injuries requiring hospitalization, although some have been fatal ▪ Anything weighing more than a few ounces that was dropped on the "spectator's" head could cause a skull fracture.

	**<u>Probability</u>** – Very high ▪ If a person fell while using this anchor point for his/her fall arrest gear, it probably would not support their weight. **<u>Severity</u>** – Extreme. ▪ Fall protection/fall arrest systems are used in situations where fall injuries can be very severe or even fatal. We'd assume that would be where this was used.
	**<u>Probability</u>** – Medium? ▪ If only one of the three people hooked up to this anchor point fell, it would hold their weight as it's designed to do. However, if more than one person fell their combined weights could take the anchor point past its design limits. **<u>Severity</u>** – Extreme ▪ As in the above example: fall protection/fall arrest systems are used in situations where fall injuries can be fatal.

	**<u>Probability</u>** – Medium High ▪ Trench is approximately six feet deep. Weight of soil would knock worker down and he'd be buried under enough soil to prevent breathing. ▪ Insufficient shoring; single speed-shore propping two sheets of OSB apart can easily slip out. ▪ Soil is wet; looks to be Type C and/or previously disturbed. **<u>Severity</u>** – Extreme ▪ There are an average of two fatals each year in Washington State from trench collapses.
	**<u>Probability</u>** – High ▪ Soil in spoils pile looks very loose – definitely Type C. ▪ Equipment operating above the trench creates vibration that increases likelihood of the trench failing. ▪ Trench sides extend well above sides of trench box; would allow soil to collapse into trench box ▪ No safe access. Workers exposed to unprotected sides as they enter/exit. **<u>Severity</u>** – Extreme ▪ As above